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JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" Sir, was any explanation called for from the District Magistrate for ordering the withdrawal of the case? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" That is a confidential matter and cannot be disclosed."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, was not the District Magistrate competent to withdraw the case under the statute? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" In my opinion, 'no', Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, was the District Magistrate transferred from his place telegraphically as soon as the news was published that the case had been ordered to be withdrawn by him? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" No, Sir."

JANAB ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" Has he been subsequently transferred, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Subsequently number of District Magistrates and Collectors have been transferred, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" In view of the fact that the accused has been honourably acquitted, do this Government consider it a fit case for awarding some compensation to him? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is no question of honourable acquittal. I find that the judge has acquitted him. If compensation is to be given in every case of acquittal, the Government cannot get on."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, do the Government propose to go to the High Court for a review of the judgment of the Sessions Judge, because it has ended in acquittal and according to them the decision is not warranted by facts in their possession? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is not a question of review. It is a question of appeal against acquittal. If the Government are advised by their legal officers that it is necessary, and it is in public interests to do so, we may do it."

Report on the localization of ayacut under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal.

* 112 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have completed their consideration of the report on the localization of ayacut under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal;

(*b*) whether the Government will place the report on the table of the House to enable public opinion to express itself on the proposals contained in the report; and

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(c) If the answer to (b) is in the negative, what method they propose to adopt in order to elicit public opinion before they pass final orders?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) & (c) The Government have approved the proposal to localise the ayacut under the canal so as to avoid wastage of water under it. A notification will be issued by the Revenue Department inviting applications from the ryots to register their lands as wet or irrigable dry as the case may be. The lands will be registered as per the applications and water-supply to them will be regulated accordingly."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will make that report available to us by placing it on the table of the library? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government do not consider it necessary to place it on the table."

Copyists of Judicial and Revenue departments.

* 113 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received an appeal from the copyists of Judicial and Revenue departments of Rayalaseema to absorb them into regular ranks of public service and treat them as clerks and accord them the same status, salary and privileges as in the case of clerks;

(b) whether similar representations have been received from other parts of the Province;

(c) whether the Madras High Court has recommended their case for sympathetic consideration; and

(d) whether any action has been taken on the said appeals and if so, what decision has been arrived at by the Government?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) During the first and second weeks of March 1949 printed copies of a representation purporting to emanate from the Judicial and Revenue copyists of the Rayalaseema were received.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) Yes, so far as the copyists of Judicial Department are concerned.

" (d) Orders have been passed accepting the following recommendations of the High Court regarding the copyists of the Judicial Department—

(1) that the remuneration of the copyists may be raised from 15 pies for 150 words to 2 annas for 175 words;

(2) that a machine allowance of Rs. 2–8–0 per month may be given; and